Keeping in Touch

News and notes from
the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches.
5300 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 304, Los Angeles, CA 90029, (213) 464-5100.

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER
1990

'I HAVE OPENED A DOOR'
General Conference XV

General Conference XV is coming up soon! Mark your calendars for July 14-21, 1991 and head for The Pointe at Tapatio Cliffs in Phoenix, Arizona for a wonderful week of fellowship.

The theme of this Conference is "I Have Opened A Door" (Revelations 3:8), and we are expecting a lot of powerful workshops and worship services surrounding this theme.

The first registration packet for the Conference has been mailed to every Lay & Clergy Delegate and to every MCC Church. If you did not receive a registration packet and would like one, please write or call the Fellowship Offices at 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste 304, Los Angeles, CA 90029; (213) 464-5100; Attn: Nancy.

A lot of events have been planned for this Conference including a Gospel Concert, Talent Show, a Children's Program, Non-Delegate events, and many, many more exciting things. Consider joining all your brothers and sisters in Phoenix in July 1991 and plan to have a fun, spirit filled week. Hope to see you there!

General Council XI
Press Release

The Eleventh meeting of the UFMCC General Council convened on October 4, 1990, in Los Angeles, CA and adjourned a half day early on October 8, 1990. Each session began with prayer and the lighting of an AIDS Vigil Candle, which burned throughout our deliberations.

The General Council greeted two new members, Rev. Beverly Baptiste, newly elected District Coordinator of the Western Canadian District, and Ms. Judy Dale, new District Coordinator of the Great Lakes District. The Moderator made some changes in the appointments to General Council Divisions. Elder Larry Rodriguez was moved to the Communications, Policy and Review Division (CPR). Rev. Rod McAvoy (Eastern Canadian District Coordinator) was appointed chair of the International Concerns, Research and Development Division (ICRD), to replace Rev. Willem Hein who is not standing for re-election as District Coordinator of the Australian District. Mr. Clarke Friesen (South Central District Coordinator) was appointed chair of the Corporate and Legal Division (C&L), replacing Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson, who will remain a member of the Division. Judy Dale was appointed to the Program and Budget Division and Rev. Beverly Baptiste was appointed to the International Concerns, Research and Development Division.

In a meeting with Rev. Sandra Robinson, Dean, and Rev. Willie White, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Samaritan College, it was decided to suspend the Standard Operating Procedures of the College. A Special Task Force on Samaritan was created, made up of Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson, Chair, Judy Dale, Clarke Friesen, and Rev.'s Hong Tan, Sandra Robinson and Willie White.

The General Council met with Rev. David Farrell, Chair of the Elders' Task Force on Structures and Systems (ETFSS). The District Coordinators will be meeting with the entire ETFSS during the March General Council meeting. The General Council also heard from Rev. Louis F. Kavar, new Field Director for World Church Extension.

On Saturday, October 6, the Council devoted a morning to Mission Focus Groups on UFMCC Programs, led by Elder Larry Rodriguez. We celebrated the 22nd Anniversary of the founding of the Metropolitan Community Churches on Sunday, October 7 (Fellowship Sunday), and spent that afternoon in a White People Healing Racism Workshop facilitated by Rev. Coni Staff and Judy Kiser, while the people of color on the General Council worked with Rev. La Paula Turner, chair of the UFMCC People of Color Department.

CPR Division reviewed all letters received from around the Fellowship concerning the first readings from the last General Council meeting, and found many useful ideas contained in this correspondence. The Program and Budget Division refined its program priorities in light of the Mission Statement. Plans were reviewed for the up-coming General Conference. New systems were developed for the Policy Manual and General Council minutes. Charters were received from MCC Baton Rouge, LA, MCC Buffalo, NY, and MCC Springfield Family, MO. Charters were granted to Morning Star MCC, Worcester, MA, and MCC Auckland, New Zealand.

Council celebrated the publication of "Don't Be Afraid Anymore", by Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry, founder and moderator of the UFMCC, and the publication of a new Church Services catalog.

Complete minutes of this General Council meeting will be available after December 1, 1990.

September, 1990
Top 20 Tithes

1.	MCC Dallas	Dallas, TX	$3407.37
2.	Church/Holy Spirit MCC	Ft Lauderdale, FL	2956.96
3.	MCC Washington DC	Washington, DC	2316.04
4.	MCC of the Resurrection	Houston, TX	1750.00
5.	MCC San Francisco	San Francisco, CA	1459.80
6.	MCC San Diego	San Diego, CA	1425.30
7.	First MCC of Kansas	Wichita, KS	1294.45
8.	MCC of the Rockies	Denver, CO	1186.91
9.	King of Peace MCC	St Petersburg, FL	1138.24
10.	St. Luke's MCC	Jacksonville, FL	721.36
11.	MCC New York	New York City, NY	712.33
12.	Joy MCC	Orlando, FL	695.83
13.	MCC Austin	Austin, TX	692.63
14.	All Saints MCC of Atlanta	Atlanta, GA	683.39
15.	Church of the Trinity MCC	Sarasota, FL	613.34
16.	MCC Key West	Key West, FL	557.67
17.	MCC of Greater St. Louis	St Louis, MO	553.39
18.	MCC of San Antonio	San Antonio, TX	522.53
19.	MCC Albuquerque	Albuquerque, NM	500.85
20.	MCC San Jose	San Jose, CA	498.88

September, 1990
Top 20 Per Capita

1.	Calvary MCC	Redwood City, CA	39.16
2.	MCC of Northern Virginia	Oakton, VA	28.70
3.	Diablo Valley MCC	Concord, CA	23.07
4.	MCC Gentle Shepherd	Vancouver, WA	22.11
5.	MCC Augusta	Augusta, GA	21.20
6.	Exodus MCC of Abilene	Abilene, TX	19.96
7.	All Saints MCC of Atlanta	Atlanta, GA	19.92
8.	MCC Rockville	Rockville, MD	19.25
9.	MCC of the Living Spring	Eureka Spgs, AR	19.10
10.	MCC Washington DC	Washington, DC	18.28
11.	MCC Charlottesville	Charlottesville, VA	17.58
12.	MCC Dayton Parish	Dayton, OH	17.54
13.	MCC North Pines	Yelm, WA	16.75
14.	MCC San Jose	San Jose, CA	15.94
15.	Dawn of Faith MCC	Houston, TX	15.27
16.	MCC of the Ozarks	Fayetteville, AR	15.17
17.	First MCC of Kansas	Wichita, KS	15.12
18.	Eternal Light MCC	Olympia, WA	14.70
19.	MCC Ocean of Life	Costa Mesa, CA	14.63
20.	MCC of the Siskiyous	Medford, OR	14.40

NOTICE!!!

ALL UFMCC BY-LAW CHANGES AND RESOLUTIONS PROPOSALS for General Conference XV must be in the Fellowship Offices by March 1st, 1991! Bodies authorized to submit these materials are: District Conferences or any UFMCC Committee or Commission.

PRAISES

Praise God - the reviews on Rev. Perry's new book "Don't Be Afraid Anymore" are coming in very strongly. The following are the comments made by Library Journal: "This is the powerful story of Perry and of the church he founded because he and others were rejected by Christian churches because of their homosexuality. Most interesting, perhaps, is the interactions with the National Council of Churches (NCC) and Perry's beliefs about what the Metropolitan Community Churches did for the NCC as a catalyst for shared Communion and other expressions of mutual Christian recognition among NCC members. There are also many notable events in the history of this 22 year old denomination and its challenges to Christian ethical understandings. Highly recommended."

PRAISE GOD -- SAMARITAN COLLEGE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES has moved: Samaritan's offices are now located in the same building as the UFMCC Fellowship Headquarters at 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 306, Los Angeles, CA 90029; (213) 464-5100, FAX (213) 464-2123. Please make sure to read over the Samaritan College Newsletter enclosed in this edition.

Congratulations to New Life MCC, the original East Bay MCC, of Berkeley, CA, a beacon of God's love to Lesbian/Gay people everywhere and the fourth established Church in the UFMCC, as they celebrate twenty years of faith, hope and love in the East Bay! New Life MCC had a celebration themed, "Love and Remembrance, The Homecoming", on November 18 with special guests from all over. May God continue to bless you bountifully!

Rev. Steve Pieters, Field Representative for UFMCC AIDS Ministry, has been interviewed and will be featured in the December issue of LIFE Magazine. "God" is the theme for LIFE's December issue. Congratulations, Steve, we pray God's continued blessing on your ministry!

PRAYERS

Rev. Jim Mitulski reported that MCC San Francisco needs your prayers as someone threw molotov cocktails into the sanctuary and created a lot of smoke and water damage to the sanctuary on the evening of Nov. 15. It is smelly and smoky but they will be meeting there as the cleanup takes place.

Our sympathy and prayers go to the friends and family of Phillip Slusser, who died October 29 in Houston, Texas of complications from AIDS. While credentialed as UFMCC Clergy, Phil served as Pastor of MCC of Corpus Christi from 1983-1985.

News on the National Council of Churches

The NCC General (formerly "Governing") Board has adopted a proposal to continue dialogue with the UFMCC to address issues related to UFMCC's eligibility for Council membership. The new proposal provides for an NCC facilitated program of dialogue between the UFMCC and other communions at the local and regional level. It also proposes to explore national encounters between the UFMCC and NCC member communions in the form of a bi-lateral and/or multi-lateral dialogues. The proposal, introduced by the Executive officers of the NCC, was adopted by the full General Board without debate or dissenting vote.

Rev. Joan Brown Campbell was elected unanimously as the new NCC General Secretary. She is affiliated with the Disciples of Christ and has previously served as Executive Director of the US office of the World Council of Churches. Her election is a very positive sign for the UFMCC given the fact that Rev. Campbell has been very supportive and instrumental in our involvement with the World Council of Churches and she has, also, served on the Board of Directors of the AIDS National Interfaith Network (USA).

Notes From Samaritan College

Students Applying for Licensure:

There are several deadlines fast approaching: December 15th is the deadline for Academic Equivalency applications. All academic requirements must be completed by January 1st. Evaluations and recommendations must be distributed so that you can put together your application packets and send them to the CCCC/ Certification Office by March 1, 1991.

For those of you who have not taken and subsequently written an exegetical paper for the Exegetical Correspondence Course or a graduate level Exegetical course and are writing an exegetical paper on your own, the following is a list of passages to be used for the 1991 licensing cycle: (select one)

Psalms 23:1-23	Luke 8:26-39
Isaiah 58:1-12	Romans 9:6-24
Matthew 15:21-28	Revelations 3:7-13

SAMARITAN'S NEW ADDRESS: 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste 306 Los Angeles, CA 90029; (213) 464-5100.

Samaritan College Staff:

Dean: Rev. Sandra L. Robinson
Correspondence Course Administrator: Rev. Bob Arthur
Administrative Ass't to the Dean: Troy Fernandez

News From The Dept. of People of Color

(submitted by Rev. La Paula Turner, Executive Director)

The Department of People of Color held its 5th Biennial Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma on the 9-11 November 1990.

The Executive Committee wishes to thank Rev. Alice Jones and the MCC of Greater Tulsa Congregation for all the hard and efficient work which helped to make the conference a spiritual blessing. Ms. Datha Zimmerman's talents as Registrar were very effective as she coordinated the volunteers. Ms. Judy Kiser, Chair of White People Healing Racism, facilitated and coordinated several workshops and activities.

For the first time in 11 years the Department has Standard Operating Procedures. The 31 UFMCC members including representatives from eight districts voted the establishment of 6 Divisions to implement the ministry of the Department. Those Divisions are

1) Division of Education
2) Division of Minority a.i.d.s. Ministry
3) Division of Missiology
4) Division of Ecumenical Witness
5) Division of White People Healing Racism
6) Division of Evangelism

The Department is taking responsibility in promoting District participation and spells out the responsibilities of the District Chapters/Departments and the local Chapters.

The Standard Operating Procedures will now be sent to the Corporate and Legal Division of General Council for approval.

The theme of this conference, "Building Leadership in Church and Society," brought out the largest attendance ever. There were 57 in attendance at the luncheon when the Keynote Speaker, Rev. Elder Dr. Nancy Wilson challenged the DPOC stating that it is the "leavening ingredient of the UFMCC" and we must urgently address DPOC strategy for activity in the next 3 to 5 years.

Camille Bell, Human Rights Activist added to the challenge of DPOC and WPHR, stating that we must make a change. "...we must step back, and make a change." And in the words of her young daughter Tonia, "We are the Star Trek generation..., we must go where no one has gone before." Using her expertise as Lobbyist and Activist, Camille Bell has agreed to be advisor to the Department as we walk into the future.

The Conference attendees contributed $246.00 plus a committment to do a fundraiser by the Prism Chapter, of MCC Agape, Ft. Worth, Texas toward the Fund For Overcoming Racism.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Rev. La Paula Turner, Executive Director
Mr. Bernard Barbour
Rev. Delores Berry
Ms. Carmen Valenzula
Rev. Hong Tan, European North Sea District

Look for further information in "THE DRUM", the Department of People of Color periodical.

Lenten Series Planned For Congregational Use

Global Outreach, the fundraising and consciousness raising program of World Church Extension, is designing a small group lenten study series. This six week program is based on Scriptures related to the Elder's mission statement and explores how we do our mission.

The program uses prayer, reflection and discussion. In addition to this study series, material on the work of World Church Extension will also be provided for inclusion in Sunday worship or bulletins.

The lenten study series and related materials will be sent to each congregation in early January. Plan today to implement the materials for Lent 1991.

For further information, contact the Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Field Director for Global Outreach, P.O. Box 8739, Pittsburgh, PA 15221; (412) 661-9056.

MCC HOUSE

It was with excitement and liturgical celebration that MCC House was opened earlier this year. A world first in UFMCC, MCC House is presently owned by the UFMCC New Zealand Trust Board, and will in time, following incorporation procedures, be transferred to MCC Auckland.

Why a world first? Well, as far as anyone can remember, this is the first place in UFMCC that is church owned, and provides not only office space and pastoral housing, but also accommodation for up to 16 people! Certainly it is a World Church Extension first! MCC House is the first property purchased in a WCE area that has not been purchased with outside Fellowship funding.

Rev. Richard Mickley says that all are welcome at MCC House where a certain amount is paid for board and all share in the food bills, the preparation and the family-style meals. Rev. Willem Hein, on a recent visit to New Zealand stayed at MCC House and said, "It was just like being with a large family. I was made very welcome." MCC House is certainly a new way of practical ministry in UFMCC.

From The Certification Office

With the 1991 Licensing Cycle drawing upon us very quickly, there are a number of items which need to be brought to your attention.

A new Clergy Manual was published January 1, 1990. If you do not currently own this manual, you are strongly encouraged to consider purchasing it. It contains all policies and procedures regarding the Certification and Licensure processes as well as all of the necessary forms and applications. Remember, you are the only person responsible for insuring that you meet all of the necessary requirements for these processes. Attractively bound in a pre-printed gray binder, the Clergy Manual can be ordered from Church Services for $45 (includes shipping and handling, California residents add tax). (The Certification/CCCC Office does not handle sales and distribution of the manual.)

There were several items passed at the St. Paul General Conference with relevance to the Certification Office. The minimum educational standards necessary for Student Clergy Appointment will be changing. Beginning January 1, 1991, the minimum number of successfully completed semester hours rises from 60 to 90. (January 1, 1993, the minimum rises to 120 semester hours.) It is, of course, possible to grandparent these requirements provided you are currently registered with the Certification Office AND have submitted the "Academic Training Program Application". If you have already submitted this form, you are currently grandparented.

Also passed in the Clergy Credentials and Concerns Committee report at General Conference was a system of evaluating your experiential documentation. This consists of fulfilling the objectives outlined in the "Experiential Training Checklist" in the Clergy Manual, (pg 43). Grandparenting is not available nor required for this evaluation, as it is the C.C.C.C.'s impression that any good training program will consist of these areas and current documentation forms do fulfill this requirement. This merely puts into writing the specific objectives required of your experiential training.

SAMARITAN COLLEGE NEWS

November, 1990

5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 306, Los Angeles, California 90029-1196, (213) 464-5100

NEW ADDRESS

Effective November 1, 1990 the Samaritan Administration Office is located at: 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 306, Los Angeles, California 90029-1196; telephone (213) 464-5100, FAX (213) 464-2123.

THANKS...

to the prayers and financial support of the members and friends of our local congregations and districts, Samaritan College is better prepared to meet the educational needs of UFMCC.

Samaritan College will *not* be relocating to another district, instead, Samaritan College continues as:

- an Administration Office
- College classes facilitated by UFMCC districts: District/Samaritan Partnerships in the USA, Canada, Europe; World Church Extension area in Mexico and Samaritan in Australia;
- the Correspondence Course Program;
- Orientation to MCC Pastoring (the summer residence program).

Samaritan College has federal "religious exempt" status, state "religious exemption" under SB 2424, and a commission from the Clergy, Credentials and Concerns Committee of UFMCC to:

- grant a Bachelor of Theology degree;

  The Bachelor of Theology Degree can be accomplished through the District/Samaritan Partnerships.
- provide the academic requirements for UFMCC licensure:
- provide continuing education units for laity/clergy.

Samaritan College's governance structure and process to accommodate this time of transition are currently under review by the General Council, Samaritan staff and the Chair of the Board of Trustees through a special task force appointed by the Council at their October meeting:

Elder Nancy Wilson, Chair	Mr. Clark Friesen, SCD
Rev. Sandra Robinson	Rev. Willie White
Ms. Judy Dale, GLD	Rev. Hong Tan. ENSD

The college is unified by eight academic components taught by approved faculty:

Biblical Studies
Sexuality Studies
History of Christian Thought
UFMCC Polity
Orientation to MCC Pastoring
Continuing Education
Theology
Ethics

Criteria for faculty include (but not limited to) those who have completed Master's and PhD level work in studies related to Samaritan curricula and those who have experience which has contributed to the diverse theology, principles, ethics and pastoral skills specific to UFMCC mission and evangelism.

During the academic years 1991-93, student/faculty population growth will be monitored closely to identify where the need will emerge for Samaritan education "centers" and/or year round residence campus. Cooperation between districts and Samaritan will be crucial for effective growth.

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BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

In October the Dean of Samaritan College met with President Robert Edgar and the Dean of the School of Theology at Claremont. Rev. Bob Arthur, Correspondence Course Administrator, Dr. Lori Dick, Student Clergy at MCC Los Angeles and Claremont student, also Julie Heckman, Claremont student, were present at the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discover if it is possible for credit to be given at Claremont for Samaritan College proficiency requirements toward Claremont's Master of Divinity Degree. It is possible and Samaritan is preparing a proposal that could be used across the country at other educational institutions. This means that sometime in the future it may be possible for a seminarian to receive credit toward their theological degree for UFMCC Polity, Sexuality Studies, History of Christian Thought, and Orientation to MCC Pastoring. (However, this may cost as much as $2000 per course per educational institution.) This plan may become true for some undergraduate degrees as well.

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CHRISTMAS IS COMING!
Donations to
SAMARITAN
would be a wonderful gift!

Thank you UFMCC for caring about Samaritan College.

Catalog

The Samaritan College Catalog is nearly complete. As soon as monies are raised (approx. $4000) the catalog will be published to UFMCC. Currently, General Council, the Clergy Credentials and Concerns Committee, the Curriculum Development Committee and some faculty have a draft copy.

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At the request of the 50 students class of 1990 Orientation to MCC Pastoring, Orientation will no longer be referred to as "Boot Camp." This is a militaristic term inappropriate to spiritual training and a misnomer for their Orientation experience.

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HEARING IMPAIRED

MCC Huntsville, Alabama is responsible for the beginning of a scholarship fund for the hearing impaired. The church has donated $247.60 to begin the fund. The intent is that grants be awarded toward the cost of securing interpreters for students attending Orientation to MCC Pastoring. Additional donations can be sent to Samaritan College. Please indicate that the donation is for the Scholarship Fund for Hearing Impaired.

ORIENTATION TO MCC PASTORING

MAY 20 - JUNE 30, 1991

Information packet will be mailed January, 1991

SAMARITAN COLLEGE 1990-91 COURSE LISTING

(See attached page for listing)

For specific information on locations and times contact:

EASTERN CANADA

Rev. Rod McAvoy
355 Wharncliffe Rd. N. Lower Apt., London, Ontario
Canada N6G 1E4, (519) 438-9301

GREAT LAKES DISTRICT

Ms. Judy Dale
1300 Ambridge Dr., Louisville, Ky., 40207-2410
(502) 897-3821.

GULF LOWER ATLANTIC

Rev. Janet Pierce
P.O. Box 10021, Huntsville, Alabama 35801
(205) 533-6220

MID-ATLANTIC

Rev. Harry Stock
1638 "R" St., NW #1, Washington, D.C. 20009
(202) 387-5230

MID-CENTRAL

Rev. Bonnie Daniel
1364 SW Collins Ave., Topeka, KS 66604
(913) 233-4023

NORTHWEST

Rev. Ed Sherriff
P.O. Box 5795, Sacramento, CA 95817, (916) 454-0170

SOUTH CENTRAL

Mr. Clarke Friesen
P.O. Box 262822, Houston, TX 77207-2822
(713) 649-5645

SOUTHEAST

Rev. Tom Bigelow
625 Jefferson Ave., N. Sarasota, FL 34237
(813) 954-0176

SOUTHWEST

Rev. Bob Arthur
5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 306, Los Angeles, CA
90029-1196 (213) 464-5100.

WESTERN CANADA

Rev. Beverly Baptiste
270 Simcoe St., Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R3G 1W1
(204) 775-4134

SAMARITAN IN EUROPE

Rev. Frank Scott
Principal, P.O. Box 316, Bournemouth, England, BH1
4HL

AUSTRALIAN SAMARITAN EDUCATION

Rev. Cliff Connors, Dean 15017 Honor St., Ermington
NSW 2115 Australia

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	SEXUALITY STUDIES	BIBLICAL STUDIES	HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT	POLITY
GREAT LAKES				
IL.,IN., KY., OH., MI., WI.	Fay (1) Williams(3)	Fay (3) Roller(2)	Hogan(2)	McCoy(6) Brown(3)
GULF LOWER ATLANTIC				
AL., GA., MS., N.C., S.C., TN	Pierce(3)	Ragona(2) Edelman(2)	Ragona(1) Galloway(3)	Guerra(1) Fontaine(3)
MID ATLANTIC				
DE., D.C., MD., N.J., PA., VA., W.VA.	Kavar(2) Stock(1) Van Buren(3)	Bohache(2)	Bohache(3)	DeBaugh(1)
MID CENTRAL				
CO., IA., KS., MN., MO., MT., NE., N.D., S.D., WY., (Quincy, Moline, and Rock Island, Il)	Howard(1)	Arehart(3)	Barbone(3)	Caton(2)
SOUTH CENTRAL				
Ark., LA., Ok., Tx.	Hunt (1) Armstrong(1) Peace(2) Bynum(1)	Nicholas(6) Darraugh(3)	Haack(3)	Tucker(2)
NORTH WEST				
AK., HA., ID., N.CA., N. NV., OR., UT., WA.	Phipps(2) Wilson(3)	Phipps(3)	Carson(2)	Mitulski(1)
SOUTH EAST				
FL.	Beane(1) White(3)			
SOUTH WEST				
AZ., N.M., S.CA., S. NV.	Sagat(2) Boothman(3) Martin(6)	Dick(2) Boothman(1) Houchins(3)	Eastman(3)	Rodriguez(2) Turner(3)
CANADA				
EAST				Wexler(1)
WEST	Bidwell(3)		Hargrave(2)	Hargrave(3)

Key

(1) = First Semester (Sept.-Dec.) 1990
(2) = Interterm (Jan. - Feb.) 1991
(3) = Second Semester (Mar. - May) 1991
(4) = Orientation 1991
(5) = General Conf. 1991
(6) = First Semester, 1991

Theology, Ethics, Continuing Education and Orientation to MCC Pastoring schedules will be published soon as well as revisions to this schedule.

One other item of importance passed on the Conference floor was a By-Law change regarding the Student Clergy Office:

Article IV.B.2.b (page 7, lines 38-39) now reads: "...Before being appointed Student Clergy, an individual must be certified by the UFMCC Office of Certification..."

Article IV.B.2.c.3 (page 8, lines 10-12) now reads: "The term of a Student Clergy shall be for one year. No person shall serve as Student Clergy for more terms than those allowed by C.C.C.C. standards."

The process for obtaining Certification of Student Clergy Internship is begun by submitting the "Experiental Training Program Application." Upon receiving this application the Certification Office will acknowledge receipt which then constitutes certification of appointment. Since the term is limited to one year, it is also necessary to document any successive terms. It is necessary for your appointment to be documented at the Certification Office with the "E.T.P. Application" for quarterly documentation to be officially recognized. Any experiential documentation reports received without prior knowledge/documentation of an appointment will be marked as "Non-Binding Documentation" which may be disregarded by your D.C.R.C. Currently, experiential grandparenting holds for three years, i.e., the maximum number of terms allowed by C.C.C.C. Keep in mind that it is not necessary to hold a Student Clergy appointment while you are working on the academic requirements. In fact, it is strongly encouraged that you fulfill these requirements before being appointed.

With regards to the Certification Process, there are several deadlines fast approaching, (All dates are interpreted as "received by" dates!):

December 15:

Academic Equivalency applications. All applications must be submitted with appropriate documentation to the Certification Office by this date.

January 1:

Application for Academic Certification must be submitted. All academic requirements must be completed if you are applying for licensure in the '91 cycle.

Application for Experiential Certification must be submitted. All experiential requirements must be completed if you are applying for licensure in the '91 cycle. Evaluations and Recommendations from the licensure application need to be distributed so that you can put together your application packages and send them to the Certification Office by March 1st.

March 1:

Applications for Initial Licensure are due at the Clergy Credentials Office. (Same office as Certification Office!)

For those of you who have not taken and subsequently written an exegetical paper for the Exegetical Correspondence Course or a Graduate level Exegetical course, and are writing an exegetical paper on your own the following is a list of passages from which to pick for use in the 1991 Licensing Cycle:

Psalms 23:1-23	Isaiah 58:1-12
Matthew 15:21-28	Luke 8:26-39
Romans 9:6-24	Revelations 3:7-13

Questions regarding Correspondence Courses can be directed to Rev. Bob Arthur who handles the Correspondence Course Division. Other questions regarding Samaritan Courses can be directed to Rev. Sandi Robinson. Any questions directed to the CCCC or Certification office please talk to Gene Van Horn.

All of us can be reached at 5300 Santa Monica Blvd. Suite 304, Los Angeles, CA 90029; (213) 464-5100. We also can be reached by FAX at (213) 464-2123. Please do not hesitate to contact the Certification Office if you have any questions. A phone call will guarantee a prompt reply.

God's peace and blessing through the holiday season!

UFMCC By-Law Corrections

Two errors in the printing of the current UFMCC By-laws (July, 1989 Edition) have been discovered. The errors are:

Article IV.B.2.b. line 38 (page 7): replace "approved" with "certified".

Article VI.B.2. line 44 (page 22):
Item #2 should read: "2) a willingness and ability to support a full time Pastor,"
Item #2 should be renumbered "3)"
Item #3 should be renumbered "4)"

The above two corrections are being printed on self-adhesive labels which can be attached to the inside cover of current UFMCC By-law booklets. Copies of the correction labels will be sent shortly to churches for distribution among congregants with current UFMCC By-law books.

For futher information, contact UFMCC Church Services at (213) 464-5100; ask for Ro Halford.

General Council & Board of Elders Agendas & Minutes

The agendas and minutes of the General Council and Board of Elders are mailed to clergy and lay delegates. The materials mailed to clergy delegates are mailed to the most recent address available in the Fellowship Office. Materials mailed to lay delegates are mailed to the local church with the indication "ATTN: Lay Delegate". Technological limitations currently prevent the mailing of materials to the individual addresses of lay delegates.

Agendas of upcoming meetings will be placed in the mail approximately 30 days prior to the meeting. Minutes will be placed in the mail within 90 days after the meeting.

As part of their duties, lay delegates are urged to share these materials with their congregations. In New Works, the "Official Observer" is encouraged to take responsibility for sharing these materials with the congregation.

The following indicates the approximate dates that materials will be mailed from the Fellowship Offices:

MEETING	DATE MATERIALS WILL BE MAILED
General Council/Board of Elders Minutes (October 1990 Meeting)	December 1, 1990
General Council/Board of Elders Agenda (March 1991 Meeting)	February 1, 1991
General Council/Board of Elders Minutes (March 1991 Meeting)	May 1, 1991

Are You Listening?

Two men were walking down a crowded sidewalk in a downtown business area. Suddenly one said, "Listen to the lovely sound of that cricket." But the other could not hear it. He asked his companion how he could detect the sound of a cricket amid the noise of people and traffic. The first man simply took a coin out of his pocket and dropped it on the sidewalk, whereupon a dozen people began looking about them.

"We hear," the man said, "what we listen for."

Arizona Defeats King Day Holiday

The Episcopal Church has decided it will hold its 1991 General Convention in Phoenix despite the defeat on Election Day of a referendum designating Martin Luther King Day as a state holiday.

Episcopal delegates defended their church's decision recently during the National Council of Churches' general board meeting. The board voted to put Arizona off limits for any unit of the ecumenical body and to encourage its denominations not to meet in the state as long as King is not honored with a state holiday.

The Episcopal General Convention will be held July 11-20 and normally draws about 10,000 delegates and visitors.

The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches is also holding their 15th General Conference in Phoenix, July 14-21. Rev. Perry has stated that we will hold our July 1991 Conference in Phoenix, however the Conference slated for July 1993 in Phoenix may be canceled if changes are not made in Arizona.

Rev. Perry said, "Phoenix was selected as our national convention site for 1991 and 1993 without any of us being aware that the Episcopal Church, which faces a convention debate on homosexuality issues, will be in the city at the same time. That was probably the move of the Holy Spirit."

PFLAG To Benefit

The Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) is a certified participating organization of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) for Fall, 1990. The campaign provides the opportunity for federal employees to support independent charitable organizations with payroll deduction gifts. The number to use to designate PFLAG is "0863".

Paulette Goodman, Federation President, said "CFC is an important source of funding for the Federation, and we urge all our friends who are federal employees to use this opportunity to support Parents FLAG."

PFLAG is a national network of volunteer support groups for families, providing information, counseling, and telephone helpline services to promote understanding between Lesbians and gay men and their families and friends and to educate the public about homosexuality. All gifts are tax deductible.

October, 1990
Top 20 Tithes

1.	MCC Dallas	Dallas, TX	$2,623.34
2.	Church/Holy Spirit MCC	Ft Lauderdale, FL	2,124.17
3.	MCC Washington DC	Washington, DC	1,749.69
4.	MCC Long Beach	Long Beach, CA	1,591.82
5.	MCC of the Resurrection	Houston, TX	1,384.40
6.	MCC San Francisco	San Francisco, CA	1,362.60
7.	MCC of the Rockies	Denver, CO	1,233.18
8.	MCC Tampa	Tampa, FL	1,115.43
9.	King of Peace MCC	St Petersburg, FL	1,102.47
10.	First MCC of Kansas	Wichita, KS	1,034.16
11.	St. Luke's MCC	Jacksonville, FL	686.75
12.	Christ Alive MCC	Vancouver, BC, CAN	621.35
13.	Christos MCC	Toronto, ONT, CAN	618.94
14.	MCC Key West	Key West, FL	569.26
15.	MCC of Huntsville	Huntsville, FL	536.35
16.	Divine Redeemer MCC	Glendale, CA	420.12
17.	MCC of the Palm Beaches	W Palm Beach, FL	397.55
18.	MCC Albuquerque	Albuquerque, NM	394.34
19.	MCC Richmond	Richmond, VA	372.50
20.	MCC New Haven	New Haven, CT	365.60

October, 1990
Top 20 Per Capita

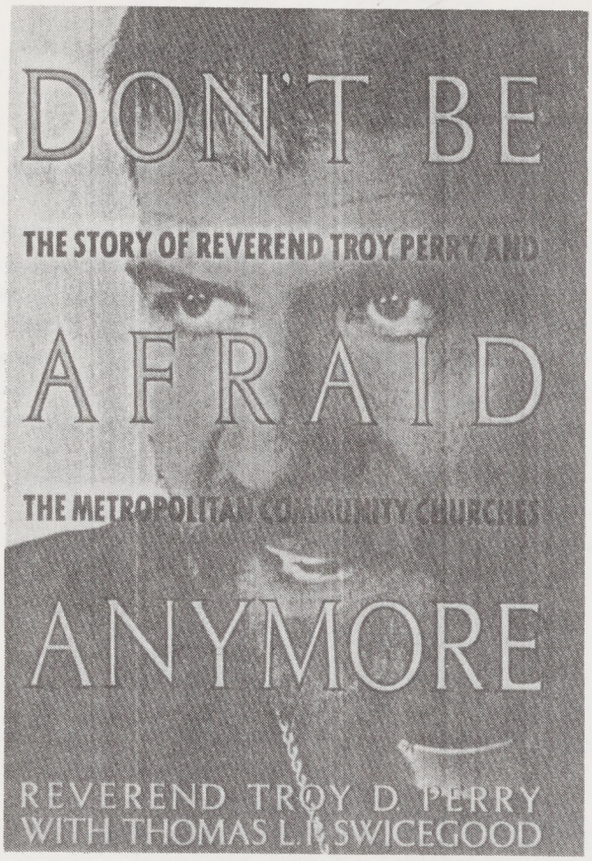
1.	MCC Santa Barbara Cty	Santa Barbara, CA	34.02
2.	MCC of the Disciples	Washington, DC	31.18
3.	MCC East County	Spring Valley, CA	29.21
4.	New Life MCC	Berkeley, CA	29.15
5.	MCC of the Redwoods	Larkspur, CA	28.65
6.	Christos MCC	Toronto, ONT, CAN	25.16
7.	MCC of Huntsville	Huntsville, AL	24.81
8.	Christ Alive MCC	Vancouver, BC, CAN	24.75
9.	Sunrise MCC/Hi Desert	Palmdale, CA	23.21
10.	MCC Long Beach	Long Beach, CA	20.92
11.	Open Arms MCC	Rochester, NY	20.10
12.	MCC in the Country	Vista, CA	19.60
13.	MCC Dayton Parish	Dayton, OH	19.12
14.	Good Samaritan MCC	Whittier, CA	18.22
15.	Christ the Redeemer MCC	Flint, MI	17.72
16.	MCC Charlottesville	Charlottesville, VA	17.00
17.	MCC Waco	Waco, TX	16.87
18.	MCC Washington DC	Washington, DC	15.38
19.	MCC Seattle	Seattle, WA	15.13
20.	MCC Ocean of Life	Costa Mesa, CA	14.85

Happy Holidays

From The Fellowship Staff

Rev. Troy D. Perry
Frank K. Zerilli
Nathan Meckley
Gene Van Horn
Nancy Fackrell
Dave Martin
Farley Peters
Ravi Verma
D. J. Bowling
Rev. Ro Halford
Rev. Bob Arthur
Don Castro

New Book Available from Church Services in October!



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